

Wick and Abson Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting held on 21st July at The Village Hall 7.15pm

Attendees: Stuart Fowell (SF)- Chair , Peter Crew (PGC) Gaive Golding (GG), Keith Hollister (KH), Simon Always (SA) , Malcolm Watson (MW) Clerk Jo Bray-Warner, and 5 members of the public

1. Chair to note apologies and receive/confirm declarations of interest in conjunction with Localism Act 2011
Cllr Bronwen Dyson
- 1a. Chair to explain emergency procedures
Chair provided clarity regarding procedures

2. Opportunity for the public as appropriate to address the Council.
 - 2.1 Member of the public commented regarding the erection of hoardings in the land opposite the Carpenters Arms
Cllr KH provided an update as to PC activities
Cllr GG advised he had already reported this activity to Enforcement
Clerk advised she had made Ward Cllrs Reade & Stoke aware.

 - 2.2 Member of the public commented he had received feedback that Brockwell park lacked seating.
Chair acknowledged the comment

 - 2.3 Member of the public commented regarding the ongoing challenge with the overgrown footpath behind Clip Factory.
Clerk advised that she had been in contact with Public Rights of Way and this was currently on their schedule of works however SGC could not provide a timescale for action

3. Wick and Abson Parish Council to undertake required procedures to Co-opt for the two casual vacancies on Council.
W & A PC had received 4 expressions of interest for filling the 2 casual vacancies.
Prior to the meeting the clerk was advised that 2 candidates could no longer attend the meeting.
Clerk advised she had made the Chair aware of the circumstance shortly before the meeting was to commence and was therefore unable to obtain the necessary advice from relevant stakeholders to statutory procedures.

Chair had proposed that PC would listen to the presentations to the 2 candidates which were in attendance and then defer the vote until the next meeting- scheduled for September.

Discussion held.

Proposal by MW to postpone the Co-option process from Extraordinary meeting and reschedule.

Seconded GG

All in favour 2

Against 3

Cllr SF abstained from voting

Proposal by SA to hear the presentations of the two candidates which were in attendance and if council deemed suitable candidates then PC could co-opt for either or both vacancies, however if council felt unsuitable then PC not to fill vacancy

Seconded KH

All in favour 3

Against 2

Cllr SF Abstained from vote

A decision was then taken to commence with the co-option during the meeting.

Cllr GG wished it noted within the minutes that there are questions regarding the legalities of the decision.
Cllr GG wished it minuted that he felt the decision was harsh and unfair.

Chair requested clerk to engage with relevant stakeholders to ensure due procedure had been followed and highlight back to chair any issues.

Chair then requested each candidate to present for maximum of 5 minutes to provide council clarity on reasons they wish to become a Parish Councillor

All candidates undertook their presentation.

Chair advised that Council would take an anonymous vote to fill the first vacant position.

Vote was taken to co-opt into the position left by Cllr Carolyn Williams

Mr James Overy held the vote

Proposed by SA

Seconded KH

Chair advised that following appointment of existing council would take a further anonymous vote to fill the 2nd vacancy on Council vacated by Cllr Derek Bonas

Mr Richard Stallard held the vote

Proposed SA

Seconded KH

4. Council to review and respond to Consultation on the draft Housing Strategy 2022

Cllr MW commented that he felt a considerable amount of consultations were distributed by SGC in summer months and wished clerk to raise this at Town and Parish Forum

Clerk to advised Town and Parish Forum secretariat.

Discussion held.

Parish Council wish to request an extension for comments until 30th September

Clerk to re-agenda item for September's Parish meeting

5. Council to review and respond to Consultation on proposed Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy.

Discussion held

Clerk to re-agenda item for Septembers Parish meeting

6. Council to review and respond to Planning application Re-consultation P22/02660/PNC Re-consultation Naishcombe House
Planning sub committee had discussed application prior to meeting and their recommendation was No Objection
Discussed held
No further comments and Parish Council confirmed No objection

7. Cllr GG to led discussion around Managing trees affected by Ash dieback
Cllr GG provided context regarding the agenda item and highlighted the government and local authority programme regarding removal of trees with ash die back. Cllr GG also provided clarity regarding PC potential responsibilities.
Chair requested that he and Cllr GG undertake a walkabout within the village to oversee and identify and potential trees which may require attention.
Cllr GG & SF will arrange time and provide council an update.

8. Clerk and Councillors to provide update as to any correspondence received since last meeting
 - 8.1 Clerk advised she had received an additional planning application no P22/02717/F which had been pre-circulated to planning sub committee. Planning sub committee discussed and their recommendation was no objection.
Discussion held
No further comment and Parish Council confirmed no objection however wished it noted that this was the 2nd retrospective planning application received within the last 2 months.

9. Councillors to provide any updates and confirm any matters for inclusion at next meeting
 - 9.1 Cllr GG provided clarity regarding potential tree removal in Nature Reserve and that he is in contact with relevant stakeholders within SGC for further updates.
 - 9.2 Cllr RS advised PC that following an inspection it appears there are structural challenges with one of the Bus Shelters and wished this to be an agenda item in September.
Clerk to add as agenda item
 - 9.3 Cllr KH advised he had arranged for Defib awareness training from our supplier to held at Village Hall on 13th October at 6pm- this follows request discussed at July's full council meeting.
Cllr SF requested all Cllrs to 'spread the word' and confirmed he would include in his inaugural piece for the Parish Magazine.
 - 9.4 Cllr RS requested an agenda item in September entitled 'Party in the Park.'
Clerk to add to agenda
 - 9.5 Cllr GG provided an update regarding the pumping of water from the quarry as per July's minutes. Cllr GG also advised that quarry operatives are currently undertaking 2 litter picks a week in and around the perimeter.
 - 9.6 Cllr SF confirmed he had delivered 2 rose trees to the main organisers of the jubilee celebrations as a thank you from Parish Council